This is a digital copy of a book that was preserved for generations on library shelves before it was carefully scanned by Google as part of a project to make the world's books discoverable online.

It has survived long enough for the copyright to expire and the book to enter the public domain. A public domain book is one that was never subject to copyright or whose legal copyright term has expired. Whether a book is in the public domain may vary country to country. Public domain books are our gateways to the past, representing a wealth of history, culture and knowledge that's often difficult to discover.

Marks, notations and other marginalia present in the original volume will appear in this file - a reminder of this book's long journey from the publisher to a library and finally to you.

Usage guidelines

Google is proud to partner with libraries to digitize public domain materials and make them widely accessible. Public domain books belong to the public and we are merely their custodians. Nevertheless, this work is expensive, so in order to keep providing this resource, we have taken steps to prevent abuse by commercial parties, including placing technical restrictions on automated querying.

We also ask that you:

+ *Make non-commercial use of the files* We designed Google Book Search for use by individuals, and we request that you use these files for personal, non-commercial purposes.

+ *Refrain from automated querying* Do not send automated queries of any sort to Google's system: If you are conducting research on machine translation, optical character recognition or other areas where access to a large amount of text is helpful, please contact us. We encourage the use of public domain materials for these purposes and may be able to help.

+ *Maintain attribution* The Google "watermark" you see on each file is essential for informing people about this project and helping them find additional materials through Google Book Search. Please do not remove it.

+ *Keep it legal* Whatever your use, remember that you are responsible for ensuring that what you are doing is legal. Do not assume that just because we believe a book is in the public domain for users in the United States, that the work is also in the public domain for users in other countries. Whether a book is still in copyright varies from country to country, and we can't offer guidance on whether any specific use of any specific book is allowed. Please do not assume that a book's appearance in Google Book Search means it can be used in any manner anywhere in the world. Copyright infringement liability can be quite severe.

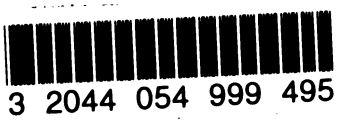
About Google Book Search

Google's mission is to organize the world's information and to make it universally accessible and useful. Google Book Search helps readers discover the world's books while helping authors and publishers reach new audiences. You can search through the full text of this book on the web at `http://books.google.com/`

Europe in the summer of 1853, and which he enjoyed exceedingly; but time is not allowed me to descant upon this subject as I should be pleased to do.

In the spring of 1864, after the completion and publication of the Pharmacopœia, in the revision of which he had been so long and so laboriously engaged, while enjoying an interval of rest before entering on the still more laborious duty of revising the Dispensatory for a new edition, he was attacked, on the 11th of March, with the disease which carried him off. This had in its earlier stages the characteristic features of an epidemic influenza then prevailing, but assumed, two or three days before its close, a decidedly typhous condition, and ended fatally on the 19th, after a duration of somewhat more than a week.

I have thus given as faithful a record of the life and character of our departed friend and fellow-member as it was in my power to do. If I have succeeded in my aim, I have represented to you an extraordinary man, one upon whose memory not a stain rests, and who, while he worked diligently, and thus did much for the public good, has done still more, within the limited circle where he was personally known, by presenting to the young men entering on the stage of active duties, an example, for their imitation, of all that is morally excellent, lovely, and of good report in manhood.


3 2044 054 999 495

A FINE IS INCURRED IF THIS BOOK IS NOT RETURNED TO THE LIBRARY ON OR BEFORE THE LAST DATE STAMPED BELOW.

JUL 31 1972

404106

WIDENER
APR 28 2002
SEP 10 2002
CANCELLED
BOOK DUE

Educ 638.16.9

Harvard College Library

FROM

The Herbarium.

12 Sept. 1891.

BIOGRAPHICAL MEMOIR

OF

FRANKLIN BACHE, M.D.,

PREPARED

AT THE REQUEST OF THE COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS
OF PHILADELPHIA,

AND

READ BEFORE THE COLLEGE, MAY 3d AND JUNE 7th, 1865.

BY

GEORGE B. WOOD, M.D.,
PRESIDENT OF THE COLLEGE.

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS.

PHILADELPHIA:
J. B. LIPPINCOTT & CO.
1865.

ENGRAVED BY A H RITCHIE FROM A DAGUERREOTYPE BY M H SIMONS

FRANKLIN BACHE M.D.

At 51 Years of age.

Franklin Bache,

BIOGRAPHICAL MEMOIR

OF

FRANKLIN BACHE, M.D.,

PREPARED

AT THE REQUEST OF THE COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS
OF PHILADELPHIA,

AND

READ BEFORE THE COLLEGE, MAY 3D AND JUNE 7TH, 1865,

BY

GEORGE B. WOOD, M.D.,

PRESIDENT OF THE COLLEGE.

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS.

PHILADELPHIA:
J. B. LIPPINCOTT & CO.
1865.

~~17334.4~~
Educ 6381.16.9
HARVARD COLLEGE
SEP 12 1891
LIBRARY.
Gift of the
Herbarium.

BIOGRAPHICAL MEMOIR

OF

DR. FRANKLIN BACHE.

THE duty assigned me by the College of Physicians of preparing a biographical memoir of their deceased Vice-president, DR. FRANKLIN BACHE, is a very grateful one. I have felt that our long intimacy and friendship demanded of me such a tribute to his memory; yet, without an invitation of this kind, I might have hesitated, under the fear of rendering myself liable to the imputation of officiousness. At present, my only doubt on the subject is one arising from the very closeness of our former association. Not only in our social relations, but in much also of our practical life, we have been so intimately connected; so much of our time has been spent together, and so much of our work has been in common; that it will be impossible to give a faithful picture of our departed friend, without bringing myself more frequently on the stage than may seem consistent with a becoming modesty. But I trust that the Fellows of the College will be prepared to make all due allowances, and to ascribe to a simple wish to present the

truth accurately, whatever I may be required to say of the joint pursuits of the deceased and myself.

It will be difficult to compress, within the limits usually ascribed to memoirs like the present, all that will be necessary to give a faithful picture of the life of Dr. Bache in its various relations; but I shall endeavour to be as concise as will be consistent with justice to the subject, avoiding minute detail unless when needful for the illustration of character, or peculiarly interesting in itself; and referring but briefly to certain circumstances in his history which may be more appropriately presented in another memoir, the preparation of which has been committed to me by the American Philosophical Society.

Dr. Bache was the great-grandson of Benjamin Franklin, and the eldest in the regular line of descent from that great philosopher, statesman, and philanthropist. His grandfather, Richard Bache, born in England in September, 1737, emigrated while yet a young man to Pennsylvania, and married Sarah, the only daughter of Dr. Franklin, in October, 1767. While in England, in the year 1853, the late Dr. Bache and myself made a visit together to the Cathedral at Chester, where his attention was particularly attracted to the repeated occurrence of the name of Bache among the monumental inscriptions. We learned that the name belonged to a family resident in the neighbourhood; and my companion thought it highly probable that they were related to his own, as the home of his grandfather

had been near Preston, in Lancashire, at no great distance from Chester. I mention this incident as tending to show that his paternal ancestors ranked with the gentry of England.

The oldest child of the marriage just referred to was Benjamin Franklin Bache, the father of the subject of this memoir, who was born in August, 1769, and married in November, 1791, in his twenty-third year, Margaret Hartman Markoe, descended through her father from Peter Markoe, and through her mother from Isaac Hartman, names distinguished in the social annals of our city. Benjamin Franklin Bache was educated under the eye of his grandfather, Dr. Franklin, while minister of the United States in France, who gave him the best opportunities Europe afforded, and caused him to be instructed, not only in the usual knowledge of the schools, but in all the accomplishments then considered as entering into the idea of a finished gentleman. On returning to America, he soon entered the political arena, established the Aurora Newspaper in the interest of the Democratic party, and, considering his own qualifications, the prestige of his descent, and the success and long predominance of his party, would probably, had he lived, attained a most distinguished position in the government of the country. But he was cut off at an early age, dying of the yellow fever in September, 1798, in his thirtieth year, and leaving a widow with four sons, the eldest of whom was the late Dr. Franklin Bache, and the youngest Hartman Bache, now Colonel

in the U. States Corps of Engineers. In the care of her young family, the mother was aided by her second husband, William Duane, who had succeeded Mr. Bache in the editorship of the Aurora, and of whose kindly interest in their welfare, I have heard my lamented friend speak in warm terms.

Dr. Bache was born on the 25th of October, 1792, in a house built and owned by Dr. Franklin, on the south side of Market Street, between Third and Fourth Streets, in the vicinity of Dr. Franklin's own residence, and, as I have been informed, in that also of the dwelling which had been occupied by Mr. Read, the father of Mrs. Franklin. From the time of his birth to that of his decease, with the exception of the few years spent as a medical officer in the service of the United States, he resided in Philadelphia, where he received both his ordinary and professional education, and which, with the exception alluded to, was throughout life the scene of his labours. In childhood and youth, however, he passed much of the summer, during the vacation of the schools, at the residence of his paternal grandfather, Richard Bache, situated on the Pennsylvania side of the River Delaware, a few miles below Bristol. He used to speak, with not a little zest, of the enjoyments of those rural visits; and there can be little doubt that the sports of boyhood in the pure air of the country, with the attendant relaxation from mental effort, contributed to give that healthful vigour to his constitution, which enabled it to support the wearing effect of the seden-

tary labour that occupied so large a portion of his subsequent life.

Contrary to what might be supposed by those who knew him only in middle and advanced age, he was when young very fond of athletic exercises, and, indeed, excelled in them; so that there were few more rapid walkers, or better leapers, swimmers, or skaters than he; and the fact is told of him, that, at the age of twelve, he swam across the Delaware near his grandfather's house, though, on reaching the opposite bank, he was so much exhausted as to be compelled to return in a ferry-boat.

In his early classical studies, he was a pupil in the academy of the Rev. Samuel B. Wylie, D.D., so long and so creditably known as a teacher of the Latin and Greek languages, under whose care he was prepared for the University. An anecdote has been told of him, in connection with this school, so strongly characteristic that it is worthy of repetition here. The rod was much more used at that time as an instrument of education than it now is. For some breach of discipline, young Bache was called up for chastisement; and being asked what, in his own opinion, he merited for his offence, he replied "it is not for me to dictate;" an answer which so much pleased Dr. Wylie that he remitted the punishment altogether. Few features of his character as a man were more decided than the one here displayed in early youth; a love of precision, namely, which required that everything should be in its proper place, and which

in this instance taught him, as if intuitively, that it is the duty of the judge, and not of the culprit, to assign the punishment of an offence. But the anecdote tells also something more. It intimates a very favourable opinion of the pupil on the part of the teacher, who felt that he might safely appeal to the judgment and conscientiousness of the offender in his own case. The anecdote was told by Dr. Wylie himself, then Professor of languages in the University of Pennsylvania, to a son of Dr. Bache, on his examination for admission into the Freshman Class. On leaving the academy of Dr. Wylie, Dr. Bache entered the University, where he went through a regular course of study in the Department of Arts, and graduated as Bachelor at the commencement in 1810, delivering the valedictory oration on the occasion.

Having determined to adopt the Medical Profession, he commenced his studies as the private pupil of Dr. Benjamin Rush, then Professor of the Theory and Practice of Medicine in the University of Pennsylvania, and remained in the same office during the whole period of his studentship; though, in consequence of the decease of the Professor, the duty of superintending the studies of his office pupils devolved on his son, the present Dr. James Rush. After matriculation in the University, he attended lectures in that Institution for the prescribed period, and received the degree of Doctor of Medicine in the year 1814. I have seldom heard him speak of this portion of his life, and have learned little

or nothing from others; so that it probably passed without remarkable incident, occupied by a regular routine of study, which left few foot-prints in the memory, except those of steadily increasing professional knowledge. This, however, is not exactly true of the period of his pupilage immediately preceding its close.

It was while he was engaged in his medical studies that the war broke out between the United States and Great Britain. Wishing to aid his country to the best of his ability, without waiting till the full completion of his studies, he offered his services in a medical capacity, and was entered as surgeon's mate in the 32d Regiment of infantry, so early as May 17th, 1813.* It is to be presumed that the authorities considered the interests of the service as likely to be best subserved by permitting him to finish his studies before ordering him on distant duty; as it was not till some months after this date that he was examined for his degree, and received the diploma of the school. He has more than once informed me that he was never actually engaged in battle; but, after his graduation, he was sent to the frontier, where he served for a considerable time, remaining with the same regiment until the close of the war. In the arrangements of the army, after peace was established, he was retained as surgeon of the 2d Regiment of infantry; but, having higher professional

* He afterwards became surgeon in the same regiment. (*Dr. Bache's Memoranda.*)

aspirations than were likely to be gratified by remaining in the army, now that his country no longer needed his services, he resigned July 1st, 1816, in order to engage in the private practice of his profession in his native city. His last place of military service, as I have been informed by Colonel Bache, was Sackett's Harbour.

On his way homeward from the North, an incident occurred, which I have heard him speak of as among the freaks of his earlier life, and which may be related here as a proof that, beneath the remarkable placidity of temper that characterized him beyond most others, there lurked a spark, which required only fit occasion to blaze out into energetic action. With other passengers, one or more of whom were of the softer sex, he was travelling in a stage-coach from New York to Philadelphia, when, at a part of the road somewhat beyond Princeton, he noticed that the driver was intoxicated, and, from his mode of managing the horses, apprehended that some mischief might ensue. After remonstrating with the man without effect, at least without other effect than impertinent replies, he by a powerful muscular effort unseated him, got possession of the lines, and drove the coach himself safely into Princeton. Whether the dispossessed coachman was taken into the town with them, or left upon the road, I do not remember; but, considering the Doctor's great kindliness of disposition, the former event is the more probable.

Though no longer officially connected with the army, he was, for several years after having engaged in practice in Philadelphia, occasionally employed in certain military duties, as, for example, in the examination of recruits, and in attendance on army-officers stationed in the city who might require medical aid, and was thus enabled to eke out a very inadequate income, while awaiting the lingering approach of professional success. In this service he was still engaged when I first made his acquaintance; and I well remember, in my visits to his office, now and then finding him with a recruit under examination.

At a very early period of his professional life, Dr. Bache's attention seems to have been especially attracted to the science of Chemistry, which is well calculated to take a strong hold on the partiality of a man of his mental characteristics.* There is in its accuracy, the precision of its formulas and rationales, its demonstrative character, and its highly important practical results, a peculiar adaptedness to the love of the true, the methodical, the certain, and the useful, which was so prominent in his moral nature. He accordingly devoted much time to this science, mastered its principles

* His predilection for chemistry showed itself very soon after the commencement of his medical studies. I have found, in looking over some of his memoranda kindly furnished me by his son, Dr. T. Hewson Bache, that, so early as some time in 1811, he published in the Aurora Newspaper an essay "on the probable composition of muriatic acid;" and in the course of 1813, while still a student, communicated three chemical papers to the "Memoirs of the Columbia Chemical Society of Philadelphia," an octavo volume containing 221 pages.

and most of its details, and particularly attached himself to the at that time new doctrine of chemical equivalents, with which he became thoroughly conversant, and which he was among the first in this country to adopt unreservedly, and to aid in bringing into general acceptance. His devotion to the science soon found expression in a Treatise on Chemistry, which he must have begun to prepare soon after his return from the army, and published in 1819. Of the character of this work I may have occasion to say something elsewhere. Its success was not very encouraging to the young author; and, in the face of so much competition as even then existed, without the support of an established name or business-influence, and labouring under the disadvantages which the want of an international copy-right law inflicts on American authorship, it could scarcely be expected to be successful, however great might be its merits. It never went through more than one edition. In after times, when he had become known both as an author and teacher, I often urged upon him either to revise this treatise, or prepare a new one for publication, having no doubt that it would prove eminently successful, and contribute both to his reputation and income; and at one time he yielded so far to my instances as to enter upon the task, and prepared an amount of manuscript, which he supposed would yield one hundred printed pages. But, whether unable to overcome a distaste arising from his early disappointment, or unwilling to spare sufficient time from other avocations, he prose-

cuted the work no further at the time, and could never afterwards be induced to resume it.*

His first attempt at lecturing was in the same direction. The lectures were on the subject of Chemistry, and, as I was informed by his brother, Colonel Bache, were delivered, about the year 1821, to a class consisting exclusively of his brothers, sisters, and other members of his family. They were afterwards repeated, on a somewhat larger stage, to the private pupils of Dr. Thos. T. Hewson, who, deeming it advisable to follow the custom, then beginning to prevail, of adding lectures to the former method of office-instruction, engaged the services of his young friend Dr. Bache in this branch of medical science; about the same time, I believe, that Dr. J. K. Mitchell was lecturing on the same subject to the students of Dr. Chapman, and the writer of this memoir to those of Dr. Parrish. It may not be amiss to state, in this place, that Dr. Hewson always exhibited a friendly interest in Dr. Bache, not only opening for him, as in

* Besides writing his Treatise on Chemistry, Dr. Bache, jointly with Dr. Hare, edited, A.D. 1821, the first American edition of *Ure's Dictionary of Chemistry;* wrote a supplement, A.D. 1823, to *Henry's Chemistry*, constituting a third though a thin volume in the edition of that work published by De Silver; edited, A.D. 1825, a *System of Pyrotechny*, by Dr. James Cutbush, who died immediately after he had completed the manuscript; edited, A.D. 1830, 1832, 1835, and 1840, four successive editions of Turner's Chemistry; and wrote, A.D. 1834, for the "American Cyclopædia of Medicine and Surgery," edited by Dr. Isaac Hays, of which only two volumes were published, the articles on Acetates, Acetic Acid, Acids, Acupuncture, Albumen, Alcohol, Alkalies, Alum, Alumina, Amber, and Ammonia in the first volume, and on Antidotes, Antimony, Aspartic Acid, and Atomic Theory in the second. (*Dr. Bache's Memoranda.*)

the present instance, paths for the exertion of his abilities, but seizing whatever opportunities offered themselves for promoting his professional welfare. Of these friendly offices Dr. Bache ever showed himself highly sensible, as evinced, among other proofs, by giving his name to his son, the present Dr. Thos. Hewson Bache, and by the dedication to him, in part, of the earlier editions of the U. S. Dispensatory.

While upon the subject of lecturing, it will be most convenient, without turning aside to other matters of record, to pursue this line of our biography to the end. The first public appointment of Dr. Bache as a lecturer was to the Professorship of Chemistry in the Franklin Institute, which took place in 1826. This chair he continued to hold, giving annually, in the winter, an elementary course, without special relation to medicine, till the year 1832, when he resigned it, in order to accept what he considered a more eligible position in the School of Pharmacy.

In the mean time, however, his field of exertion, in this capacity, was enlarged by another appointment, which, as its duties were to be performed in the warmer seasons, did not interfere with the exercise of his professorial function. In the year 1830, two associations were organized for the instruction of medical pupils, upon a combined system of lectures and examinations, which at that time had become the prevalent method of private medical tuition in this city. It was attended with two great advantages; *first*, that the pupil was

much more thoroughly educated than before, and, *secondly*, that a set of teachers was thus formed, from among whom our great public schools were afterwards supplied with tried and trained Professors, by whose instrumentality the former pre-eminence of Philadelphia, as a seat of medical instruction, has been maintained to the present time. The two combinations referred to were distinguished by the names of the *Association for Medical Instruction* and the *School of Medicine.* In the former of these, in which the writer taught Materia Medica, Dr. Bache was the Lecturer on Chemistry, in the latter Dr. Ch. D. Meigs on Obstetrics.* Each of these bodies had desired to secure the co-operation of both of the gentlemen named; but as they were already engaged as members of their respective schools, the object could be accomplished only by an interchange of services; and this was accordingly agreed upon; the pupils of the School of Medicine being admitted to the course of Dr. Bache on Chemistry, and those of the Association to that of Dr. Meigs on Midwifery. This arrangement continued in operation about five or six years, during which Dr. Bache gave two courses of

* The *Association for Medical Instruction* consisted of Dr. Jos. Parrish, who lectured on the Practice of Medicine, Dr. Franklin Bache on Chemistry, Dr. J. Rhea Barton on Surgery, Dr. Geo. B. Wood on Materia Medica, and Dr. Samuel G. Morton on Anatomy; the *School of Medicine*, of Dr. Wm. Gibson on the Principles of Surgery, Dr. J. Randolph on Operative Surgery, Dr. C. D. Meigs on Midwifery, Dr. B. H. Coates on the Practice of Medicine, and Dr. R. La Roche on the Institutes of Medicine.

lectures annually, one in the colder, the other in the warmer season.

It has been already stated that he resigned his position in the Franklin Institute, on being appointed to the chair of Chemistry in the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy. This appointment was made in the year 1831, on the occasion of the vacation of that chair by myself, in order to take the Professorship of Materia Medica in the same Institution; so that we were now, and for several years continued to be associated both in our summer and winter teaching. Dr. Bache held the chair in the College of Pharmacy until appointed, in the year 1841, to the same Professorship in the Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia; a position probably, at that time, scarcely second, as regards emolument, to any other of a similar character whether in the United States or abroad. This position he continued to hold till his decease.

Singular as it may seem, considering our long and close intimacy, I do not remember that I ever attended an ordinary lecture of Dr. Bache; so that I cannot, from personal observation, give an account of his peculiar qualities as a lecturer. But, from my intimate knowledge of the man, I can readily picture him to myself in the performance of his professorial duty; and, from what I have learned from frequent conversation with his pupils, I have no doubt that the following sketch will be recognized, by those who have heard him, as very near the truth. In reference to his style

of lecturing, he was slow and deliberate; correct in the choice and arrangement of his words, because from long habit he could scarcely be otherwise; simple and plain, however, without any attempt at metaphors or other flowers of speech, yet now and then indulging in a witticism or stroke of humour, and sometimes interlarding the dry details of the science with a ludicrous but still illustrative anecdote. As to the matter taught, he was extremely methodical, clear in his explanations because clear in his own conceptions, conscientiously precise in all his details, and leaving no dark spot in his subject unillumined. In his experimental illustrations he was almost invariably successful, as he left nothing to chance, and took care that all the necessary preliminaries of success should be duly attended to. Though lecturing extemporaneously so far as language was concerned, he treated of everything in its proper place, omitting nothing undesignedly; because he studied each lecture carefully before delivering it, and generally performed this duty at night before retiring, so as to be secure against interruptions in the morning. His manner had the earnestness of conviction, but was nevertheless quiet, without the least display of warmth or excitement. To say all in a few words, he was a plain, clear, truthful, conscientious, and efficient, but not a showy, splendid, or peculiarly attractive lecturer; one from whose prelections the student would retire, with his thoughts more intent upon the subject taught than upon the teacher.

We will now return to a period somewhat anterior to the commencement of his career as a lecturer upon Chemistry. About two years after withdrawing from the army, on the 28th of May, 1818, he was united in marriage with Aglae, daughter of Jean Dabadie, a highly respectable French merchant, who was then living in Philadelphia, but soon afterwards removed to France, where he died. His son Albert, half-brother to Mrs. Bache, was long United States consul at Venice, and now resides at Nice, where Dr. Bache, who always had a most kindly regard for him, and gave his name to his youngest son, had the pleasure of meeting him, on our joint visit to Europe in 1853. This marriage was a very happy one, though unfortunately too soon broken by death. Mrs. Bache, as I remember her, was a lady of fine countenance and noble presence, with excellent moral qualities, amiable, intelligent, and judicious, who diminished for her husband, by sharing them, the embarrassments of an inadequate income, and, whatever may have been his troubles abroad, at least made his home happy. But, most sorrowfully for her husband, after bearing with him the burdens of his earlier life, she was prematurely carried off by consumption, dying on the 26th of May, 1835, just about the period when his prospects began to brighten; with the consolation, however, of a fair future for those she loved, though she herself might not participate in their better fortunes. She left him a young family of six children, sons and daughters, of whom five survive.

The Doctor, though in the prime of life when she died, remained faithful to her memory, and was still a widower at the time of his decease.

Like most other young medical men who have commenced their professional life in this city, he was very slow in obtaining practice. Indeed, though a well-informed and judicious practitioner, he never won professional success at all proportionate to his merits, or of itself adequate to the comfortable support of his family. This may be ascribed chiefly to two causes. *In the first place*, he was probably not sufficiently on the watch to seize those fugitive opportunities which present themselves in the path of almost every candidate for success, and was certainly very deficient in that self-assertion, which, without waiting for the interference of others, makes known one's own claims to a careless public, and a due degree of which is almost essential, in the absence of powerful aid from friends and connections. But the *second* cause was probably still more operative. For great success in the practice of medicine an undivided attention is necessary. Medicine is said to be a jealous mistress, who requires the entire devotion of her votaries, and is alienated by even a suspicion of infidelity. The public, when observing an apparent addiction to any other pursuit, is apt to consider the time and energy given to this as so much abstracted from the necessary requirements, whether of the study of medicine as a science, or its practice as an art, and to withhold its confidence and patronage accordingly. Even chemistry,

closely as it is allied, and, indeed, essential as it is to medicine, is not an exception to this rule; and unless cultivated obviously and exclusively in subservience to the practice of the healing art, will be found almost invariably to impede professional progress in a greater or less degree. Dr. Bache was known from an early period of life to have addicted himself to this science, and I have no doubt experienced the effects of this reputation in the limitation of the number of his patients.

He was appointed physician of the Walnut Street State-prison in 1824, and of the Eastern Penitentiary at Cherry-hill in 1829, and continued to serve in these positions until 1836, when his increased avocations rendered his resignation necessary. It is scarcely requisite to say that he performed their duties faithfully, and satisfactorily to all concerned. An evidence of the conscientiousness with which he acted is exhibited in the earnestness of his measures to guard the inmates from the attack of cholera, which made its appearance among us epidemically in 1832, during his connection with those establishments. The crowded condition of the old Walnut Street prison, in the heart of the city, offered one of the conditions most favourable to the assault of the disease; and the terrible fatality which attended its prevalence in the Arch Street prison, situated less unfavourably, because in a less thickly-built neighbourhood, intimates how fearful may be the results of the want of due hygienic precautions in such institu-

tions.* That the epidemic cause was present in the Walnut Street prison was sufficiently evinced by the occurrence of one fatal case of cholera, and other mild cases of disease of the stomach and bowels, such as generally attend its epidemic prevalence. As soon as he had reason to suppose that the disease was about to invade Philadelphia, he took instant measures, with the sanction of the Inspectors, to put the prison into a condition most unfavourable to the influence of the morbific cause. The diet of the inmates was regulated, cleanliness of the person and apartments was rigidly enforced, all filth and other sources of noxious exhalation were removed whenever practicable from within the confines of the prison, disinfectants were freely employed, and the prisoners were kept separate as far as possible, especially at night. In reference to this last point, it was desirable to have the greatest possible extent of space for the accommodation of the inmates. One large apartment was used for the storage of articles manufactured in the prison, while awaiting use or sale. This the Doctor was desirous of having emptied; but on that point he was resisted by the authorities. "What can we do with them?" said the Inspectors to him, when

* Some of the younger readers of this memoir may require to be informed that the Walnut Street prison was situated at the South-east corner of Walnut and Sixth Streets, opposite to what is now known as Washington Square, but was formerly named Potters' Field; and the Arch Street prison on the South side of Arch immediately West of Broad Street, with very few buildings near it. Many years have passed since these two prisons were removed; and their sites are now occupied by private houses.

urging the removal of the goods. "Why," replied the Doctor, "if you can do no better, carry them into the yard and burn them." He did not, however, gain his point until the awful fatality in the Arch Street prison became known, when he was authorized to do as he might think best. The consequence of all this care was that only one fatal case occurred within the prison; and this was the only case of cholera reported by him. On being asked why he did not report the milder cases, and thus gain the credit of their cure, he replied that when there was any reason to doubt the nature of the affection he always avoided giving it the name of cholera, as he feared lest the effects of terror on the prisoners might aggravate the disease, and even increase its prevalence; thus showing more regard for the good of his patients than for his own reputation. The same regulations were enforced at Cherry-hill so far as requisite; but the situation of that prison was so much more favourable both as regards locality and internal arrangements, that not a symptom of the disease is said to have shown itself.

His position in the two State-prisons naturally led a person of his thoughtful character to investigate the subject of penitentiary discipline; and his intimate contact with both the old and new systems, as in operation in the two prisons respectively, gave him excellent opportunities for the formation of just views. The results of his reflections were given in two letters, dated, the one March 13th, 1829, the other October 16th, 1830,

which were published both in a pamphlet form, and in the third and sixth volumes of Hazard's Register.

For the first ten or twelve years of his professional life, the income of Dr. Bache was so inadequate to the wants of his family, and the prospect before him seemed so unpromising that, as his brother Colonel Bache informed me, he on more than one occasion seriously contemplated removing to the West in search of better fortunes; and it was only by the remonstrances of his near relatives, who were confident that he would ultimately rise to distinction, that he was induced to remain. It was not till 1835 or 1836 that his prospects began decidedly to brighten. An assured income from the U. S. Dispensatory now united with that from his practice and other sources to make him quite comfortable; and his appointment to the Chemical chair in the Jefferson College, but a few years afterwards, placed him in a position of comparative affluence.

In the life of Dr. Bache there were three series of incidents, arising from his connection with three different societies, each of which requires a distinct consideration. The three societies referred to were the American Philosophical Society, the Kappa Lambda Society, and the College of Physicians. After accompanying me through a narration of as many of these incidents as we shall have time to notice, the Fellows of the College will, I think, be prepared to agree with me in considering the influence of such associations on the lives of their members often very beneficent, and in the opinion

that a young man thus connected, if disposed to take advantage of his opportunities, will have much greater chances of distinction and usefulness than if isolated in his course of life.

As regards Dr. Bache's relations with the first-mentioned association, the American Philosophical Society, I shall have occasion to speak fully elsewhere. In this place it is sufficient to say that he became a member April 21st, 1820, and, after occupying successively almost every official position, distinguishing himself in all by a close attention to their duties, was chosen President January 7th, 1853; a distinction, independently of his personal claims, highly becoming him as the eldest descendant of the founder and first President of the Society, Dr. Benjamin Franklin. In consequence of a by-law of the Society then in force, limiting the duration of the Presidency to two years, his term of office expired in 1855; and subsequently, when, partly through his instrumentality, this by-law was abrogated, and the old rule of indefinite re-eligibility restored, he positively declined to allow his name to be used as a candidate, though he would undoubtedly have been re-elected, had he done so. He lost, however, none of his interest in the Society, and, as long as he lived, continued to attend its meetings regularly, and to participate actively in its proceedings.

You have all, I presume, heard of that peculiar Philadelphia institution, the Wistar Club, or as some of its members prefer to name it, the Wistar Party. This is

an offshoot of the American Philosophical Society, and originated in the custom of Dr. Caspar Wistar, a former President of the Society, and at the same time Professor of Anatomy in the University of Pennsylvania, of entertaining at his house, on a particular evening every week, a select number of members, and other invited guests, citizens, or strangers who might happen to be in town, especially those of any scientific pretensions. After the decease of Dr. Wistar, which happened in the year 1818, a number of the members of the Society, who had been frequent guests on these occasions, united to form a club, with the view of continuing the meetings. The simple rules of the club were that it should consist exclusively of members of the American Philosophical Society, that none should be admitted unless by a unanimous vote, and that entertainments should be given every Saturday evening by the members successively; and care was taken so to limit the numbers composing the club that one party during the season, which usually extended from October to April, should be given by each individual. The entertainments, extremely frugal, and wisely so, in the time of Dr. Wistar, gradually degenerated into extravagance with his successors; so that it was at last deemed necessary to adopt certain sumptuary regulations, which, however, were not always found sufficient to restrain expenditure within the limits of moderation. Dr. Bache was an active member of this association, regular in the performance of its duties and in attendance, and by his social qualities contributed not a little to the

attractiveness of the parties. He continued to be a member so long as he lived. I have always regarded the Wistar Club, not merely as an ornamental feature of Philadelphia society, but as a very useful social institution; bringing as it did persons together of various pursuits, who would not otherwise perhaps have met, thus removing prejudices, and conciliating friendly feeling; and, by a regulation regarding strangers which gave each member the right to introduce one or more to the meetings, facilitating their intercourse with citizens, and contributing to the reputation of our city for hospitality. At the breaking out of the great rebellion, the meetings of the club were, I think wisely, suspended; but we may hope that they will be resumed with the return of peace.

We are next to consider those events in the life of Dr. Bache which had their source in his membership in the Kappa Lambda Society. This association, which was exclusively medical, was founded about the year 1822, by Dr. Samuel Brown, of Kentucky, who designed that it should extend throughout the Union, with branches in different localities, affiliated in one brotherhood, and bound together by community of principle and aim. The great object of the association was to elevate the character of the medical profession not only in scientific attainment, but also and especially in its ethical relations. Prominent above all other aims, at least in the branch of the society established in Philadelphia, were the maintenance of harmony among its members, and

the promotion of harmony as far as possible in the profession generally. In the beginning it was necessarily a secret association. An essential point in its constitution was that all its members should be on friendly terms together; and, after its first formation, no one could be admitted unless by unanimous consent. In the weakness of infancy, it could easily have been crushed by the superior strength of those, who, from their mutually unfriendly relations, could not be admitted as members. When it became stronger with age, there was no hesitation in making known its existence and purposes. One danger threatened it, growing out of its peculiar constitution, that, namely, of degenerating into cliques, with interests distinct from those of the outside members of the profession, if not hostile to them. Whatever may have happened elsewhere, we fortunately escaped the danger in this city. The Kappa Lambda Society of Philadelphia increased so rapidly that it soon embraced a large proportion of the profession in this locality, and was thus placed beyond the chance of being used as an instrument of selfish purposes. Indeed, its influence among us was purely beneficent; and, when it went out of existence, it probably did so because it had accomplished its objects as far as could be done by mere association, and there was no further use for it. Formerly the profession was anything but harmonious in Philadelphia; and unseemly disputes exposed it to the derision of its enemies, and the disapproval of the public. It was, I think, mainly through the influence, imme-

diate or remote, of the Kappa Lambda Society, that this contentious spirit was superseded by a remarkable degree of harmony, which has been handed down to the present times; so that there is probably no place in the world of equal size, where medical men in general have more cordial relations among themselves, and where open enmities or disputatious wrangling would be more discreditable.

An incident which occurred at my own house some years since will serve to illustrate this statement. There were at that time at least three regular incorporated medical schools in the city. At my Wistar party for the season, there were present one or more of the Professors from each of these schools; and among the guests was a stranger, himself also a physician, from a somewhat remote part of our country less characterized by a spirit of concord. Before the close of the evening the stranger approached me, and, in a confidential manner, expressed his astonishment at seeing so many persons of interests so opposite, not only met together, but apparently on the best possible terms. "I should have expected," he said, "to see them at daggers' points; but so far from that, they converse freely with one another, and, indeed, seem as if they might really be friends. How do you explain it?" I contented myself with answering that it was the fashion in Philadelphia.

Dr. Bache was among the earliest admitted members of the Kappa Lambda Society, and in 1828 one of its Vice-presidents, was thoroughly imbued with its spirit,

and fully performed his part in the accomplishment of its purposes.* Among the measures adopted at an early period for the promotion of its ends, was the institution of a Quarterly Medical Journal, conducted by a committee of the Society, and entitled the *North American Medical and Surgical Journal.* The first number appeared in January, 1826, and the last in October, 1831; so that it had a duration of six years. The editorial committee to whom the work was entrusted, and whose names at first appeared, as the only responsible conductors, on the title page, were Drs. R. La Roche, H. L. Hodge, Franklin Bache, C. D. Meigs, and B. H. Coates. The connection of the Journal with the Society was not made public until announced by the editors, on the appearance of the 7th number; and the editorial corps was about the same time increased by the addition to the five original members of Dr. John Bell, Dr. D. F. Condie, and myself, who had, however, co-operated with the committee from the beginning. Much of Dr. Bache's time was for six years given to this Journal, to which he contributed original articles and reviews, and his due share of the quarterly summary, which was very copious and complete.† When, moreover, the editors took upon

* My friend Dr. R. La Roche informs me that, as first instituted in Philadelphia, the Society consisted of only four members; himself, Dr. Saml. Jackson, afterwards Professor of the Institutes of Medicine in the University of Pennsylvania, Dr. C. D. Meigs, and Dr. Thos. Harris.

† The following were the papers and reviews contributed by him to this work;—In vol. i., a Paper on Acupuncturation, and a Review of Dr. Thos. Thomson's "First Principles of Chemistry;" vol. ii., a Review of "Prout

themselves, in part, the pecuniary responsibility of the Journal some time before its close, it was on Dr. Bache that they chiefly relied as their financial agent; and to his accuracy and care that they probably owed their escape from pecuniary loss. It is but just to his memory to say that all his services to the Journal were entirely gratuitous; and when the editors became in part proprietors, it was in no mercenary spirit; for all the profits, whatever they might be, were pledged for the payment of contributors. Though myself a participant in the management, yet there were so many others concerned that I may be permitted to say, without exposing myself to the imputation of inordinate self-esteem, that the Journal was admirably well conducted, replete, especially in its earlier volumes, with valuable original matter, and, taken altogether, probably inferior to none of the same period in the English language. No writer on practical medicine could do justice to his subject, without a frequent appeal to its pages directly or indirectly.

But the consequences to Dr. Bache of his membership in the Kappa Lambda Society did not cease with the cessation of the Journal. The eight editors, who had been so long and so agreeably associated, meeting often and always with pleasure in conducting the literary business of the Journal, had contracted mutual friendships which

---

on Diabetes, Calculus, &c.;" vol. vi., a Case of Obstructed Bowels (of remarkable interest); vol. ix., Report of Selected Cases; vol. x., Review of Christison on Poisons; and vol. xi., a Review of Dr. Southwood Smith on Fevers. (*Dr. Bache's Memoranda.*)

forbade a separation, and a return to their former relations of mere professional brotherhood. They resolved, therefore, at the suggestion, if I remember rightly, of Dr. La Roche, to remain associated under the name of the Medical Club, with the understanding that they should meet, one evening in the week, in the houses of the several members successively, for the purpose solely of friendly social intercourse. In order to avoid the rock on which such associations are so apt to split, they made at the beginning a firm resolution, which was never afterwards departed from, to restrict the eating and drinking to simple cakes or bread and butter with tea and coffee; and, in order to extend the social action of the club, they agreed that the host of the evening might invite a few medical friends, and that each member should have the privilege of taking with him one or more strangers, belonging to the profession, who might happen to be in town. These resolutions were carried into effect, and the club continued in more or less regular operation till the decease of Dr. Bache. The meetings were often very happy; and I presume that there is not one of us who does not look back upon them with unalloyed satisfaction, except from the intrusive thought that the original members can never all meet again in this world. No one contributed more to the general enjoyment than Dr. Bache, who, on these occasions, often relaxed from the calm seriousness habitual with him to promote general good humour by joke, witticism, pleasantry, or ludicrous anecdote, all uttered in a quiet manner, which

added to their effect. It is a singular fact, in relation to this club, that, though formed so early as January 15th, 1833, and consisting of persons then entering into middle life, and some of them in delicate health, it did not lose by death a single one of its original members until the decease of Dr. Bache, that is, during a period of more than thirty years. The fact at least speaks well for the habits of the members; and it is worthy of note that all or nearly all of them belonged to the original Temperance Society of Philadelphia. The late Dr. Henry Bond was one of the members of the club; but he joined it considerably after its formation, and, with the exception of Dr. S. H. Dickson, was the only one ever admitted. The Medical Club has been a prolific parent, and has always looked with maternal satisfaction on her progeny; though, like most other mothers, apt sometimes to scold the younger ones a little, for what, looking perhaps on her own abstemiousness with rather too much self-approbation, she is disposed to regard as an approach to extravagance.

It remains to speak of Dr. Bache's relations with the College of Physicians. No other society had so great or so beneficent an influence on his course of life. He became a Fellow of the College in April, 1829, and Vice-president in July, 1855. How regular he was in attendance, how much interested in the proceedings, how judicious in his advice and admonitions, and how open to conviction and ready to yield when convinced, most of you can remember as well as myself. When the Fel-

lows were called on for contributions, especially towards the building fund which has brought into existence this noble edifice, his purse was always open, with a liberality perhaps disproportionate to his means; and, when the time came for the use of the fund, his judgment, as one of the building committee, aided materially in its judicious application. In consequence of the absence of the President of the College in Europe, he presided for more than two years in 1860, 1861, and 1862, over your meetings. It is not, however, my purpose to particularize all the services he rendered the College, or all the several proceedings in which he was especially concerned. I shall mention further only one series of its operations, in which he largely participated, and which, in its general influence on the welfare of the profession, and through it on the good of the country at large, entitles it, and will ever entitle it, to the gratitude of the nation as one of its benefactors. I allude to the action of the College in reference to the U. S. Pharmacopœia, which began with the inception of that work, was concerned far more than that of any other institution in its improvement, progress, and ultimate establishment as the recognized national standard, has continued with unabated zeal to the present time, and will, I hope, be extended indefinitely into the future. At the same meeting at which he was elected a Fellow of the College, Dr. Bache was appointed one of a committee to revise the Pharmacopœia.

The first Pharmacopœia of the United States was

published in Boston in 1820, under the authority of a convention which met at Washington, representing incorporated medical institutions in various parts of the Union. In other civilized countries, works of this kind are usually prepared directly or indirectly under governmental authority, and have in a greater or less degree the sanction of law. In ours, unfortunately, no regulating power over the medical profession was given in the Constitution to the General Government, so that this power is reserved to the States. We cannot, therefore, have one general pharmacopœia with legal sanction; and it is not desirable that the several States should exercise their reserved power in this direction, because, though we might thus have pharmacopœias with the authority of law, they would almost necessarily be more or less discordant and conflicting; and we should thus fall, even in a greater degree, into that mischievous confusion, from which the profession in Great Britain has but just escaped by the incorporation of the three British Pharmacopœias into one. Under the circumstances of our political constitution, the establishment and regulation of the Pharmacopœia have been wisely left to the care of the profession itself. It was from a strong conviction of the necessity of such a regulating code, that the movement took place which eventuated in the Pharmacopœia of 1820, and in which our College, though it did not then take the lead, nevertheless zealously co-operated. But the work, though creditable as a first attempt, was in many respects so incorrect and defective that it

failed to command general acceptance, and, at the end of ten years, which had been fixed on for its revision, seemed, except in some limited localities, to have been almost forgotten. Happily, the late Dr. Thos. T. Hewson, afterwards President of the College, having been a delegate from this body to the Convention of 1820, by authority of which the Pharmacopœia had been published, retained his interest in the work, and brought the subject of its revision to the notice of the Fellows. A committee of revision was accordingly appointed, early in 1829, consisting of Dr. Hewson, Dr. Bache, and myself; the last two having been chosen, the former for his well-known chemical knowledge, the latter, I presume, from the consideration that, having been for several years delivering courses of lectures on Materia Medica, it was supposed that he might know something of the subject.* Beginning its labours immediately, the committee worked diligently for eight or nine months, and at the end of that time were enabled to present to the College the completed draught of a pharmacopœia, which had little resemblance to the original except in the general plan, and a few great characteristic features. The College adopted the revised work, and, having appointed Dr. Bache and myself delegates to represent them in the approaching Decennial Convention, to meet

* The U. S. Pharmacopœia had, before this time, engaged the particular attention of Dr. Bache; as a review of the first edition of it, that of the year 1820, had been written by him, and published in the first volume of the American Recorder, in the year 1821.

in Washington in January, 1830, entrusted it to us, to be presented to the Convention as the contribution of the College towards the new Pharmacopœia. So little interest was generally felt in the subject, that, on reaching Washington, the delegates of the College found few others present, and the whole number which entered the Convention did not exceed eight from five different societies. Nevertheless, they organized themselves regularly, and, proceeding to business, received the report of the Philadelphia delegates, and, having adopted it, referred it for further revision and ultimate publication to a committee, consisting of physicians from different parts of the United States, to meet at as early a period as possible at Philadelphia, with Dr. Hewson as Chairman. After the adjournment of the Convention, measures were immediately taken to carry its views into effect; and several copies of the work were made, and transmitted to distant members of the revising committee. Without entering further into detail, it will be sufficient to say that the draught was generally approved, and, with some slight modifications, was referred for publication to a sub-committee, consisting of the three members of the College by whom it had been originally prepared. But, before allowing it to go to press, so desirous was the committee that it should receive the approval of all who might afterwards be practically concerned, that it was submitted to the scrutiny of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, which, after careful examination by a committee, returned it with their endorsement, making,

however, certain valuable suggestions, of which the committee was happy to avail itself. The work was at length put to press, and was published in April, 1831; the same care being exercised to prevent errors in printing, as had been extended to it in every stage of its progress. Happily, the new Pharmacopœia was generally approved as it became known, and, in the end, was universally received both by the medical and pharmaceutical professions as the standard for the whole Union, and morally as obligatory as if it had been brought forth under the sanction of law. A regard for truth, however, compels me to say that the publication of the U. S. Dispensatory, which took place soon after, and of which the Pharmacopœia had been adopted as the basis, contributed more than any other agency, and probably more than all other agencies combined, to make it known and understood throughout the United States. On this point I shall have occasion to say more hereafter. At present I wish to confine your attention to the Pharmacopœia, until all has been said that may be required to represent the connection of Dr. Bache with that work. So large a portion of his time, so much of his mental labour, and so great a share of his interest and solicitude, were for more than thirty years of the best portion of his life devoted to its preparation and improvement, and to the means of establishing it as the United States standard of Pharmacology, that it would be doing great injustice to his memory to pass lightly over his connection with it.

Thus far, it will have been perceived that Dr. Bache participated in every step of the revision, both the preliminary one by appointment of this College, and the final one under the authority of the Convention, as also in whatever was requisite in the publication of the new edition. The same precisely is true of the subsequent editions; those namely put forth by the Conventions of 1840, 1850, and 1860. In reference to each of these editions, a revising committee was appointed by the College; the revised copy prepared by this committee was sent to the Convention at Washington, where the College was represented by delegates; the new draught was referred with other contributions to a revising and publishing committee meeting in Philadelphia, by whom the work was ultimately prepared for publication, and then carried through the press; and of all these bodies, the committee of the College, the Washington Convention, and the final revising and publishing committee, Dr. Bache was a very attentive, laborious, and efficient member.* In the last revision, that, namely, which resulted in the recent publication of the Pharmacopœia, A.D. 1863, he had even heavier duty to perform than on

* Of the revising committee appointed by the College in 1839, the members were the same as on the occasion of the preceding decennial revision, namely, Drs. Hewson, Bache, and myself; in the subsequent revisions made by the College for the editions of 1850 and 1860, Dr. Jos. Carson, in consequence of the decease of Dr. Hewson, was chosen in his place; and the same Fellow of the College, by appointment of the Convention at Washington, served also on the revising and publishing committee, to which the work was, at each of these periods, finally entrusted.

the preceding occasions. In former revisions, it had been my lot to act as chairman of the final revising and publishing committee; but in this, as I announced my intention of making a voyage to Europe in the spring, the Convention, though doing me the honour of putting me upon the committee, devolved the duties of chairman on Dr. Bache. As several contributions from different sources were referred to this committee, and among the rest two complete draughts of a pharmacopœia, one from this College and the other from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, an unusual amount of labour was imposed on the committee, in comparing, selecting, and finally consolidating the materials. The committee had, moreover, determined to make a complete and thorough revision, so as to leave as little for future change as possible. This required much research and numerous experiments; every doubtful point being submitted to the test of practical trial, and this frequently being repeated once or oftener, before a satisfactory conclusion could be reached. When informed that the committee had 119 meetings, generally once a week, which were mainly occupied in examining and deciding upon the work done in the intervals by sub-committees, from whom 138 written reports were received, you will be able to form some conception of the great burden that rested on the chairman, whose duty it was to see that all the materials should be properly arranged, that everything should be clothed in correct and congruous language, and that the work throughout should be consistent as

well in form as substance. Though strongly pressed by the public demand, and anxious to put forth the new edition as soon as possible, consistently with the greatest attainable perfection, the committee was unable to publish it before about the middle of 1863. It is scarcely necessary to add that, for all this expenditure of time, thought, and solicitous labour, not only in this revision, but in all those in which he had been concerned, Dr. Bache neither expected nor received any other recompense than the consciousness of duty performed and public benefit conferred, and perhaps a reputation enhanced with that portion of the profession who knew and could appreciate his efforts and sacrifices.*

One or two other points in reference to the revision of the Pharmacopœia, as connected with our departed friend, require notice. The work was at first confined exclusively to the medical profession, without any participation whatever of the pharmaceutical. Any one who considers for a moment the nature and purpose of a pharmacopœia, that all its formulas are for the guidance of the apothecary, and that he much better than the physician, as a general rule, understands their principles and modes of execution, must see at a glance, if

* In the interests of pharmacy, Dr. Bache wrote, and published in the *American Journal of Pharmacy*, the following articles; 1. "An Address to the Graduates of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy" (*vol.* i., A.D. 1835); 2. "Remarks on the British and United States Pharmacopœias" (*vol.* viii. N. S., A.D. 1842); and 3. "On the Advantages of a Single Pharmacopœia for the British Empire" (*vol.* iii. 3d Series, A.D. 1855).

free from prejudice, how unjust and at the same time impolitic was this exclusiveness. The cause of it, I presume, was that, at the time when the movement for the preparation of a pharmacopœia began, there were few thoroughly educated pharmaceutists in this country, and no incorporated bodies to represent them and provide for their instruction; that in fact pharmacy, as it then existed here, was a trade rather than a profession, and consequently that there were no ready means for enlisting its services. Now it so happened that, when first engaged in the work of revision, I was Professor of Chemistry in the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, and naturally had my attention turned to this defect. Hence it was that the Pharmacopœia of 1830 was submitted by the committee of revision and publication to the judgment of that body, and their co-operation requested. Soon afterwards Dr. Bache was elected to the same chair in the College of Pharmacy, in consequence of my own transfer to that of Materia Medica. We were now in a condition to act conjointly in this matter, and Dr. Bache gave all his influence to the measure of uniting the two professions in the work. The consequence was that the next Convention at Washington invited the participation of pharmaceutists in the revision then begun, and provided that, in the following Decennial Convention, that, namely, of 1850, the incorporated colleges of pharmacy throughout the Union should be represented upon an equal footing with medical associations. This accordingly happened; and the

last two decennial conventions have consisted of delegates of both professions; and the two latest editions have been their joint work. I have no hesitation in stating that, in consequence of the full co-operation of the two professions, which was scarcely secured before the recent revision, the present Pharmacopœia is not only better positively than any preceding edition, which might be expected under any circumstances, but is much better relatively; that is, of a higher character, in relation to the state of pharmacy now, than any one of its predecessors was, in a similar relation, at the time of its publication; and to Dr. Bache in a considerable degree is due this very satisfactory result.

The other point requiring notice is the rule, which, in all our labours for the Pharmacopœia, strongly actuated Dr. Bache and myself, of endeavouring to make our national standard conform as much as possible with the standards of Great Britain, so that pharmaceutical terms should, to every proper and practicable extent, have the same signification wherever the English language is spoken. This approximate identity has been much facilitated by the recent consolidation of the three British Pharmacopœias; and it is an interesting fact that a paper by Dr. Bache was published in the American Journal of Pharmacy, in the year 1855, and immediately afterwards republished in one or more British journals, strongly recommending, and argumentatively enforcing such a consolidation. Whether this disinterested advice from a stranger had any influence in

promoting the decision come to by the British authorities I am unable to say.

We are not yet done with the incidents of Dr. Bache's life, arising out of his connection with the College of Physicians. One of the most important as regards his worldly interests, perhaps the most important, is yet to be mentioned; I refer to his partial authorship of the U. S. Dispensatory. This work would, in all probability, never have been undertaken, but for his previous concern in the revision of the Pharmacopœia, in which he became engaged solely through his fellowship in the College. Indeed, one of the chief motives for writing the Dispensatory was in order, by its means, to make the Pharmacopœia more generally known and acceptable, and thereby contribute to its universal practical recognition as the national standard. The original Pharmacopœia of 1820 was very far from having attained to this position. It was natural that they who had laboured so long in preparing the new edition of 1830, should wish to see it successful, and be disposed to do what they could to make it so. They knew no better method than to prepare a work, which, while it might supply a great want of the whole medical and pharmaceutical professions, should also serve as a commentary on the Pharmacopœia, giving detailed accounts of the medicines it recognized, and explaining and enforcing all its processes. It was in this wish and hope that I proposed to Dr. Bache, and our mutual friend, Daniel B. Smith, President of the College of Pharmacy, whose

thorough acquaintance with pharmacy both scientifically and practically rendered his co-operation desirable, that we should join in preparing a dispensatory, which was then much needed, as there was no work of the kind in the English language, which could be considered as a proper exponent of the pharmacology of the period, or as calculated to meet the peculiar wants of the two professions in this country. The proposal was accepted, and at a meeting in Mr. Smith's house, Oct. 28th, 1830, it was agreed that we should proceed immediately to work; Dr. Bache taking mainly the mineral substances and those resulting from purely chemical processes as his share, while Mr. Smith should deal with the strictly pharmaceutical part, and the vegetable materia medica was allotted to me. We had not proceeded far, when Mr. Smith found that a continuance of the work on his part would be incompatible with his other engagements, and with our assent withdrew, having completed a pharmaceutical preface, and a few other articles, which still stand in the work over his initials. I ventured myself to take up the burden which our friend laid down; and thus it happened, and not from any failure in his own engagement, that Dr. Bache was responsible for only about one-third of the work.

It may not be amiss to mention here, as strongly illustrative at once of his sense of justice and spirit of independence, that, on my proposal that, whatever might happen to be the proportionate amount of the work produced by each, as determined merely by the number

of pages, which could not be received as an accurate measure of value, the proceeds should be equally divided, he positively declined; and this, too, at a time when a few hundred dollars annually were a matter of great importance to him.

The work was successful greatly beyond our expectations; a second edition being called for some time before the expiration of the year; and from that time to the decease of Dr. Bache, a period of about thirty years, there was no slackening in the public demand. That it contributed to fulfill the original purpose of the authors, the diffusion, namely, of a knowledge of the Pharmacopœia, and its ultimate adoption as the national standard, can scarcely be doubted. For obvious reasons I am precluded from comment on the character, the merits or demerits of the work; but a few facts may be mentioned, in addition to what has been already said; and are indeed called for in justice to him with whose biography we are engaged. One of them is that the work is not the same as it was when first written, but really a new one, in which certain primary features of the original have been preserved, but the substance has been changed as if by a sort of interstitial growth, indicating a constant watchfulness, at each successive edition, so to modify every article, as to bring it into accordance with the progress of knowledge or the change of opinion. Besides, very many additions have been made; and the quantity of matter contained in the book has been nearly if not quite doubled. Another fact is that, in

consequence of the presumed necessity of restraining the work within the limits of a single volume, the authors have used ceaseless efforts to compress the language, not only striving to express new matter in the fewest words consistent with clearness, but eliminating whatever was useless from the old; so that there are probably few works which contain more substance in the same space. A third point to which I would call attention is the great precision and clearness of that portion of the Dispensatory for which Dr. Bache is responsible, and the remarkable accuracy of the whole as long as he lived to watch over it; for the entire work, down to each word, letter, and point, passed at every revision under his critical eye, which few errors escaped.* It will thus be seen that the care of the Dispensatory occupied a large portion of Dr. Bache's time for many years; and this remark applies not only to the occasions when new editions were prepared; but more or less also to the intervals, when materials were collected for subsequent use. Of the importance of the work to Dr. Bache, in a financial point of view, an inference may be drawn from the fact, that, up to the time of his decease, he had received the proceeds accruing to him from the sale of 79,000 copies; but probably of still greater value to him was the reputation which it gave

* The parts of the Dispensatory belonging to Dr. Bache are indicated by his initial, B, at the foot of each article or portion of an article written by him.

him throughout the Union, and to which there can be little doubt that his appointment to a professorship in the Jefferson School was mainly ascribable. It will now, I think, be admitted, that what was before stated of the beneficent influence upon his fortunes of his fellowship in the College of Physicians has been fully confirmed.

There were various other associations, literary, scientific, professional, or benevolent, with which Dr. Bache was connected. Thus, he was an early member of the Academy of Natural Sciences of this city; was in 1840 elected a corresponding member of the National Institute at Washington; and in 1854 became an honorary member of the Imperial Academy of Naturalists at Moscow. For many years he served as one of the Managers of the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb in Philadelphia, and was for some time president of the board. In 1857 he was made an honorary member of the American Pharmaceutical Association. One other association I will mention, because his connection with it exercised some influence on his subsequent life; I refer to the Temperance Society as first formed in this city.

Dr. Bache heartily participated in the great temperance movement which began about the year 1826, and the influence of which, though impaired by various opposing causes, is still felt in the general prevalence of habits in this respect greatly in advance of those which so fearfully characterized our country when the movement began. A society was soon formed in Philadel-

phia, consisting largely of medical men, of which Dr. Bache was one, and, after a time, if I am not mistaken, a manager. The great principle of this society was the promotion of temperance by entire abstinence both from the personal use, and from the offering to others, of any form of ardent spirit or distilled alcoholic liquor as drink, except when it might be required for medical purposes. It was believed that this principle might be universally adopted, and, should it be so, would secure a complete triumph to the cause of temperance; while an attempt to carry the contest further, and abolish the use of fermented liquors, would inevitably fall short of its aim, and might even aggravate the original evil by leading to reaction. We neither gave nor exacted any written pledge, we did not even engage our personal honour, trusting solely to the determination of individual members. I say we; because I was one of those who adopted this rule of action; and the sentiments of Dr. Bache and myself were in perfect accord on the subject. We adopted the rule for life, independently of all association; and I have reason to believe that my friend lived up to it entirely to the very end. He never, after having joined the society, either drank ardent spirit, or gave it to another except as a medicine. But he abandoned the society when he believed it to be carried, in the then existing whirlwind of excitement, into dangerous excess. He could not accompany it in a crusade against all forms of fermented liquor, even down to cider and spruce beer, in its proclamation of the abstract sinfulness of even the

moderate use of alcoholic drinks of every kind, in its attempt to control free-will in this respect by law, and in degrading the cause of temperance by mixing it up with the paltry interests of mere party contests. He was thoroughly convinced that on this road the great cause could never advance to universal or even general acceptance, and apprehended that the extremes to which the movement was carried would endanger a resilience in the opposite direction, so as to put at risk the permanence of all that had been gained; and an out-look upon the present condition of the cause will go far to convince the impartial observer that his apprehensions were not altogether groundless.

Let us now take a view of Dr. Bache at the time of his life to which our narrative has carried us; when his faculties were at the best; when he had tided over the shoals of fortune, and his position in the world was fixed; when around and before him all was bright, unless when temporarily obscured by some flitting sadness from the past, or by some of those brief sorrows or anxieties from passing events from which humanity is never exempt. As I am writing not only for the audience to which this memoir is addressed, but also in the hope that my humble effort may reach other persons and other times less familiar with its subject, you will excuse me if, in this attempted portraiture, I shall introduce many features both of person and character, already well known to most if not all of my hearers. The period to which I now allude was after his election to

his professorship in the Jefferson School, between his fiftieth and sixtieth year. In a conversation with the late Hon. John Sergeant, with whose reputation for wisdom you are all familiar, at a time when I was myself verging on that age, and expressing some apprehension of a probable decline of mental power, he assured me that I was mistaken. "You are approaching," said he, "an age in which there is greater capacity for usefulness than at any other. The intellect is mature without having begun to decay; while the passions of earlier life, which so often mislead or obscure the judgment, have lost much if not all of their strength, and the sense of duty is stronger than ever; so that with equal powers, and a clearer insight, we feel ourselves more forcibly impelled to a useful course of action. No! The most fruitful ten years of your life are before you." In thus speaking, Mr. Sergeant, no doubt, but told his own experience; and the life of Dr. Bache offered another illustration of the correctness of his judgment.

With a symmetrical person, five feet ten inches high, and weighing about 160 pounds; a well-shaped head of medium size; an oval face, with regular features, though an unusually small mouth; dark-gray eyes, dark-brown hair, and a fair complexion, Dr. Bache was, even in advanced life, a fine-looking man, and when young must have been eminently handsome. A copious gray beard, which he wore for some years before he died, though it gave him a venerable appearance, detracted, I think,

from the beauty and expressiveness of his countenance, by concealing some of its best features. His habitual expression was a placid and calm seriousness, with a certain degree of sweetness, which gave a charm to his face somewhat like that of his great ancestor in certain busts that I have seen of him. In society, however, this habitual repose often gave way to smiles; for he enjoyed humour; and, whether the humorous thought was his own or another's, it was equally depicted on his features. In our frequent committee meetings, after the business had been finished, it was not uncommon for some one, addressing Dr. Bache, to call out, "Now, Doctor, let us amuse ourselves; give us something to make us laugh;" and, though this is not the most effectual method of eliciting wit or humour, we were seldom disappointed. The seriousness would vanish from his face, and the smiles which followed found us always ready to sympathize.

In regard to intellectual character, he had an excellent reasoning faculty, though slow in its operation, leading him, when the necessary facts or data were before him, almost invariably to correct conclusions; and these once attained were seldom afterwards disturbed. This steadiness of conviction, however, was not in any degree owing to an obstinate temper; but apparently to his confidence in the accuracy of the trains of thought by which he had reached them; for no man was more open than he to correction, and, when convinced that he had been wrong, no one more ready to acknowledge his

error. Yet such were the strength and tenacity of his first convictions, that, after full acknowledgment of their fallacy, his mind was apt in time to return to them, apparently forgetful of the suggestions which had induced his change of opinion. In our very frequent conferences there was of course occasional disagreement, and, when I happened to be in the right, I could generally, perhaps always convince my colleague; but years afterwards, as, for example, in the successive decennial revisions of the Pharmacopœia, I found him with his original convictions returned, being quite forgetful of the course of argument by which he had been induced to change them; so that it was necessary to go over the same grounds to bring about the same result; and this happened not once only at a single revision, but sometimes a second, and perhaps a third time.

In addition to his excellent faculty of ratiocination, he had in a remarkable degree the quality of common sense or judgment, by which, certain conditions being given, the best or most expedient course of action is determined, or which, the question being as to the probable opinions or actions of a number of individuals under certain circumstances, resolves the question truly as if by intuition or with a spirit of prophecy; a faculty probably consisting in a constitution of mind similar in character to that of the multitude, though superior in grade. That these two faculties, reason and judgment, are quite distinct, is proved by the fact, that a high degree of one is compatible with a very low degree of

the other; the profound thinker often having little common sense, while the man of excellent judgment is often almost incapable of abstract reasoning. Dr. Bache possessed both, in a high degree; and whatever intellectual superiority he may have evinced was probably owing, chiefly at least, to this combination.

Of the faculty of imagination he seems to have possessed very little. Either as a speaker or writer, so far as I am aware, he was never consciously guilty of a metaphor or other flower of speech; and, though he certainly could understand such figures intellectually, I doubt whether he had a true feeling of their beauty or grandeur.

In the closely allied power of invention he was equally deficient; and in the faculty of observation was, I think, little superior to the generality of men. As the possession of any power in excess is ordinarily attended with a proportionate disposition to exercise it, so a deficiency generally involves an indisposition to act in the direction of the faculty; and thus we may account for the absence, in the history of Dr. Bache, of any poetical effort, any sustained attempt at the discovery of new truths in science, or any apparent wish to gain distinction as an original observer in the fields of natural history. He dealt with facts or presumed facts already known; and his forte was to examine and compare, to sift out the true and valuable from the mass of the untrue, the doubtful, and the worthless, and then to record the results in due order and a lucid manner, and

in a style clear and precise, without any attempt at the showy or ornamental.

Both the sense and faculty of humour he possessed in a considerable degree; and this appears to have been quite distinct from his other mental qualities; so that, seen in his different states of mind, the serious and jocose, he seemed like two different individuals. He did not, like many others, habitually mingle the two together. In his serious writings or conversation he seldom indulged his humorous propensity; and when in the latter vein he was apt to give himself up to it altogether for the time. I do not say that this was invariably true, but, according to my observation, it certainly was so as a general rule. Between this and his other mental qualities there was this remarkable difference; that, while unusually slow in the latter, he was in the former remarkably quick and ready; and his humour seems to have been the only thing about him to which the term quickness was applicable. I may, perhaps, be excused for giving a few specimens of his humour, illustrative of its character, confining myself to those which came under my own observation. The first specimen that I shall give belongs to the category of puns, to which, in common with some other distinguished Philadelphians, he was not a little addicted.

It occurred at a large dinner-party, consisting exclusively of medical men, given in the year 1839, and intended to celebrate the establishment of peace and harmony in our profession. Dr. Chapman presided, and,

if I remember rightly, Dr. R. M. Patterson, Dr. Thomas Harris, and Dr. Bache were Vice-presidents. At the proper time, Dr. Bache, as one of the three Vice-presidents, was called on for a speech. This he premised by offering a toast. "I give you," said he, "our worthy President, Dr. Nathaniel Chapman, who with his many excellent qualities, has, so far as I know, only three *vices;* and they are so very amiable that they may almost be regarded as virtues." A gentleman sitting next me at table whispered in my ear "What are the three vices of which Dr. Bache speaks?" I whispered in return Vice-presidents.

Another was a kind of witticism which was not uncommon with him, being intended generally to cover a gentle satire, or perhaps a kindly piece of advice. The public was much agitated on the subject of mesmerism, and many wonderful stories were told, and believed by the credulous. In this instance clairvoyance was the subject. It was pretended that a person mesmerized sympathized with the mesmerizer, so as to see, feel, hear, taste, smell, and think as he. The story was told that an individual thus affected was carried mentally with the operator into a far distant apartment which he had never seen, and, being asked what he saw, mentioned, among other things known to be in the room, the portrait of a lady representing only the back of the head and bust. "Oh!" said Dr. Bache, "that was a small matter. Had he seen the face of the picture, that would have been worth telling." He could not have more

effectually intimated his belief that the whole affair was simply humbug.

The third specimen represents another variety of humour in which Dr. Bache sometimes indulged, the jocose, namely, though very seldom with so much of the practical character as this. A party to which he and I belonged were travelling in Switzerland, and, having reached the foot of a long ascent in the road, we two had alighted, and were walking up the hill. At all such places in Savoy and Switzerland, there is apt to be a number of little beggars, ready to waylay the traveller. Such a crowd, consisting of boys and girls from about ten or eleven years downward, for the older cannot be spared from the field or workshop, approached us, and with the most dolorous expression of countenance, and whining tones of distress, begged aid for their sick mother, etc. Dr. Bache at length, turning round to them, and counterfeiting their lugubrious face and piteous tones, held out his hand, and begged of them beseechingly something for his poor sick wife and houseful of starving babes at home. The humour of the joke was more than they could stand. They exchanged their affected sadness for smiles and laughter, and, as if ashamed of having been caught in their attempted deception, turned slowly, and walked away.

I do not know that I should have detained you with these illustrative anecdotes; but that each of them has its own significance besides. The first informs you of an interesting fact in the medical history of this city;

the second of Dr. Bache's utter want of faith in clairvoyance and whatever else seemed miraculous in mesmerism; and the third of an event in his history which was of great interest to himself, that, namely, of his visit to Switzerland.

Hitherto we have considered only the intellectual side of Dr. Bache's mental constitution. The moral was still more characteristic; and this I find it difficult to portray so as to do full justice to my own impressions. In a few words, it may be said that he was, seemingly by his very nature, a Christian. At the foundation of his moral character was a strong conscientiousness, which, apparently without his own cognizance, regulated all his thoughts and deeds. One might suppose that the idea of doing what he believed to be wrong never occurred to him; and, though his natural slowness sometimes prompted him to postpone doing what he had engaged and felt that in duty he was bound to do, yet the dissatisfaction attendant on this neglect secured the full performance of his engagement in the end. I do not think that I ever knew him to fail in the ultimate fulfillment of a promise; and I was always entirely confident of his performance of a task, when a positive promise could be secured. Knowing himself in this respect, he was always exceedingly cautious in making engagements, unless of such a nature as to render him entirely confident in their easy fulfillment.

His regard for truth, which was equally remarkable, might be considered as an offshoot of his conscientious-

ness. But I do not believe that it was so. Both seemed to spring from the same root. He was not true simply because he believed it wrong to be otherwise. Falsehood in every shape, direct and indirect, by assertion or insinuation, or even by purposed silence, was abhorrent to his nature. It did not seem possible for him to be otherwise than true. I need not say I never knew him to utter an untruth consciously; I cannot recall an instance in which he even hinted an untruth, or allowed a wrong impression, arising, though without his own complicity, from what he may have said, to remain uncorrected. Nay, he would not unfrequently, when he knew or suspected a wrong impression in his favour to have been received, without any instrumentality of his own whatever, take pains to correct it, though silence might have been altogether justifiable.

Of the same character was his sense of justice. This was a governing principle of his life. Like his regard for truth, it did not seem to spring from his conscientiousness. He was not just because he thought it his duty to be so, but simply for the sake of justice, which he loved for itself alone. Nothing could tempt him to take or accept an advantage which he thought unfair; and though by no means obstinate where no duty intervened, he was in such cases inexorable. While thus scrupulous not to violate justice to others, he expected also that it should be exercised towards himself; and perhaps made fewer allowances, in cases of its non-performance, than many others might be disposed to do,

who were less rigorously exacting of themselves. Perhaps nothing affected the standing of an individual in his estimation more injuriously than a conviction of his habitual injustice.

From the joint influence of his regard for truth and justice, he was extremely candid, often incidentally speaking of facts concerning himself or his affairs, which might be interpreted to his disadvantage, though never intruding them on his hearers. For example, he never hesitated to admit the limited amount of his income from practice, though professional men are apt to think that their prospects are benefited by a general belief of their success, and that nothing more impedes progress than the contrary impression that they have little or nothing to do. But this candour was evinced throughout his life, and was one of its many interesting features. It was no doubt promoted by a consciousness that there was nothing about him which it was expedient or necessary to conceal.

A love of order was another striking feature of his moral nature. This pervaded all that he did or said. It was to be seen in the precision of his language, in his ordinary bodily movements, in the state of his sitting apartments and the arrangement of his books and papers, in the keeping and settlement of his accounts, in his work of all kinds, reading, writing, and lecturing, in the relative position and proportion of the several subjects or parts of subjects discussed, even to a great extent in his social relations. Perhaps to this principle may be

ascribed his dislike of little inaccuracies of style and grammar, and ordinary errors of the press in whatever he read. Even a misplaced point was offensive to him. He generally read books of any scientific pretension with pencil in hand, and was in the habit of noting corrections on the margin, a list of which, on the principle of doing as he would be done by, he sometimes sent to the author, from whom, in several instances, he received a letter of acknowledgment and thanks.

Not less prominent than the preceding characteristics, perhaps I might say the most prominent of his moral qualities, was the equanimity or rather the extraordinary placidity of his temper. I do not think that, notwithstanding my abundant intercourse with him in private and public, in his own family and elsewhere, socially, in joint labour, and officially, though I have travelled with him at home and abroad, and on one occasion five or six months successively, I have ever, in any one instance, seen him really angry. I have seen him unusually serious under offence, I have heard him complain when he conceived himself injured or unjustly treated, and have even witnessed something like sternness of expression upon his features on the occasion of flagrant injury to a friend or to society; but he exhibited none of what are habitually considered the characteristic symptoms of anger or even indignation; and the strongest term that I could apply under the circumstances was that he was offended. Indeed, on one occasion at least, he complained to me of this peculiarity

of his nature, and expressed regret that he could not feel decidedly angry, even when intellectually convinced that he ought to be not only angry, but very angry. This did not arise from any weakness of character; from the fear of receiving injury, or even from an unwillingness to hurt the feelings or offend the sensibility of others; for few men were more ready than he to show or express disapproval when deserved, even to the offender himself, and to punish any great dereliction of duty or of propriety in whatever mode might be deemed expedient; but he did all this without the exhibition, and probably with little of the feeling of anger. I do not think that Dr. Bache ever had any great difficulty in fulfilling the two divine precepts, of doing to others as you would that they should do to you, and of the forgiveness of injuries.

Though desirous of the good opinion of others, and sensitive to merited commendation, Dr. Bache cannot be said to have been ambitious. He cared little or nothing for power, had no wish to influence others except through their reason and judgment, and coveted distinguished position only as it evinced kindly feelings or favourable opinion. Perhaps a somewhat larger infusion of ambition into his nature might have given it greater energy, and stimulated him to the accomplishment of still more for the general good and his own fame.

Kindly disposed to all, and, however much he may have disapproved, hating none, he reserved his warmest affections within narrow limits, and, outside of the

family circle, there were few who enjoyed his entire friendship and confidence. He gave his affections slowly, as he formed his opinions; but, like these, when once given they were very steadfast. It was one of my highest sources of satisfaction in life that he considered me among his nearest friends. From the commencement of our acquaintance, not a shadow remains in my recollection upon the kindliness of our intercourse. Our mutual confidence and reliance were complete; and in losing him I have felt as though one of my main supports in life had been taken from under me; that a vacuum has been produced in my existence which can never be filled; yet I have sincere pleasure in looking back to our long unbroken friendship; and the best compensation for his loss, the nearest approach to the satisfaction of our former intercourse, is that which I have experienced on the present occasion in tracing out his career and character, and attempting to do justice to his memory.

But little more is necessary to complete the portraiture. Dr. Bache had a great taste and fondness for music, but, I presume, little power of execution; at least I never knew him to make the trial. He was a frequent attendant of the opera here; and, in our journey through Europe, he never failed to avail himself of this source of enjoyment in the great capitals we visited.

I need scarcely speak again of his characteristic slowness, so often referred to in the course of the memoir, except to say that it appeared to pervade almost his

whole being, and was exhibited not only in his mental operation, but also in his bodily movements. His slow deliberate step in walking is familiar to all who knew him. This deliberateness in whatever he did, said, or wrote, had its advantages. It saved him, no doubt, from the commission of many errors, and was one of the causes of the extreme accuracy by which he was so favourably distinguished. In our intercourse not only as co-workers in scientific and professional pursuits, but in various other respects, I have myself derived so much advantage from this peculiarity of our friend, that I have probably reason to consider it rather as worthy of commendation than as a defect.

Little need be added to what has been already said of the attainments of Dr. Bache. He had received the usual elementary education in the Latin and Greek languages, was familiar with the French, and, when somewhat advanced in life, undertook the study of the German, in which he made considerable progress, though without mastering it. His reading, though occasionally excursive into the various fields of literature, was chiefly scientific and professional; and his leisure intervals were generally occupied in keeping himself on a level with the knowledge of the times.

I have already had occasion to speak of his style as a lecturer. As a writer it was similarly characterized; clear, concise, correct, simple, methodical, calculated to make the subject fully understood, without calling attention off from it to the author. In his published

writings, he seldom if ever indulged in the humorous or jocose; but it was much otherwise in his familiar letters. There were few of the many written to myself in which some pleasantry was not introduced. I may be excused if I quote one by way of illustration. He had been travelling with me for about a week in one of my customary excursions into the interior; and, leaving us at the Susquehanna, had found the accommodation on his journey back by another route somewhat rough, with a break-down of the stage-coach superadded. Writing me on his return, and wishing to contrast his pleasant journey out with the unpleasant one homeward, he said that he could not better express his feelings than by a comparison he had heard in his boyhood; "I went up watermelon and came down squash."

Of his religious opinions Dr. Bache seldom spoke even to his intimate friends. He attended worship in the Protestant Episcopal Church. If we judge him by the Gospel rule, that a tree is known by its fruits, he cannot have been very far wrong; for few men, within the circle of my knowledge, lived more nearly up to the Christian standard.

Though his political opinions were decided, and he generally gave expression to them at the ballot-box, he could not be considered, in the ordinary acceptation of the term, as a party man, and never, I believe, at least after I knew him, took an active part in measures connected with party politics.

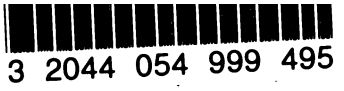
From the commencement of the era of his life, which

is now engaging our attention, to its close, a period of somewhat more than twenty years, Dr. Bache occupied a most enviable position. Highly respected by all and generally beloved, so far as I know without an enemy, with a sufficient income to support him handsomely, and a surplus that enabled him to make some provision for the future; occupied, too, in various useful works, which, leaving him intervals of relaxation, fully employed without oppressing him, generally in the enjoyment of good health, and participating in the ordinary social duties and pleasures of his station, with an affectionate family around him, he lived as happy a life as the uncertainty of all human affairs permitted, or probably as consisted with his own permanent good. A portion of each summer, perhaps from two to six weeks, he was in the habit of giving to relaxation in the country, generally at the sea-shore. Once he paid a visit with me to a residence in my native place in New Jersey, where I had an opportunity of taking him to a religious meeting of the Friends, held in unbroken silence, which he seemed to enjoy as something quite new to his experience. The necessity of attending scientific and professional conventions at distant places, and once at least of being present, by appointment of the Government, at the examination of the Military Academy at West Point, gave him the opportunity of occasional absences from home, which contributed to diversify his life agreeably. I have before alluded to a visit of about five months, which he paid with me to

Europe in the summer of 1853, and which he enjoyed exceedingly; but time is not allowed me to descant upon this subject as I should be pleased to do.

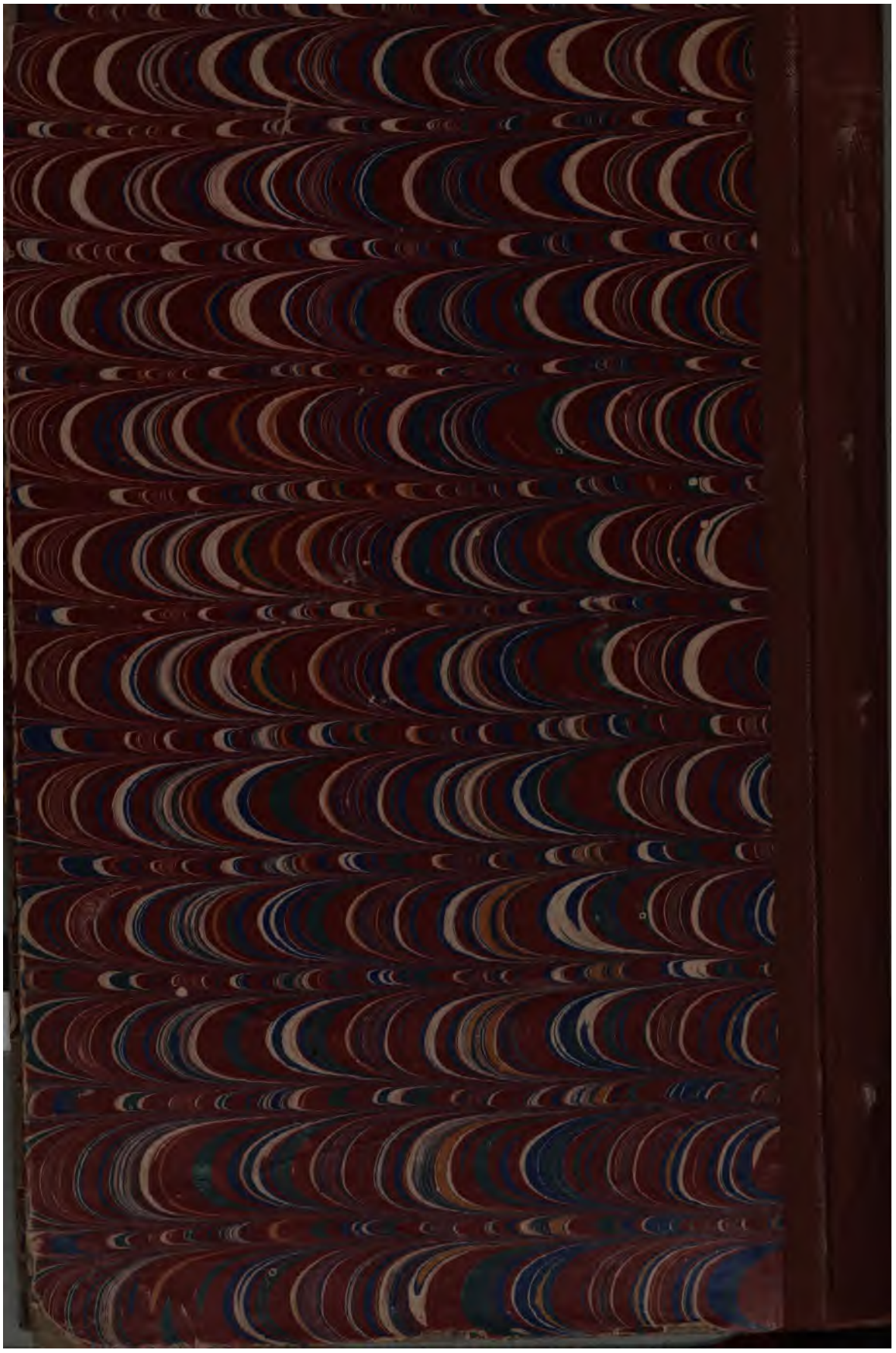
In the spring of 1864, after the completion and publication of the Pharmacopœia, in the revision of which he had been so long and so laboriously engaged, while enjoying an interval of rest before entering on the still more laborious duty of revising the Dispensatory for a new edition, he was attacked, on the 11th of March, with the disease which carried him off. This had in its earlier stages the characteristic features of an epidemic influenza then prevailing, but assumed, two or three days before its close, a decidedly typhous condition, and ended fatally on the 19th, after a duration of somewhat more than a week.

I have thus given as faithful a record of the life and character of our departed friend and fellow-member as it was in my power to do. If I have succeeded in my aim, I have represented to you an extraordinary man, one upon whose memory not a stain rests, and who, while he worked diligently, and thus did much for the public good, has done still more, within the limited circle where he was personally known, by presenting to the young men entering on the stage of active duties, an example, for their imitation, of all that is morally excellent, lovely, and of good report in manhood.


3 2044 054 999 495

A FINE IS INCURRED IF THIS BOOK IS NOT RETURNED TO THE LIBRARY ON OR BEFORE THE LAST DATE STAMPED BELOW.

JUL 31 1972

4824106

WIDENER
APR 28 2002
SEP 10 2002
CANCELLED
BOOK DUE